

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. In the Office Action dated December 12, 2005, claims 1-10 and 18 were rejected. Claims 11-17 and 19-24 were objected to.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 11-17, 19 and 22 are amended. Following the Amendment, claims 1, 11 and 19 are independent. Independent claim 11 incorporates the limitation previously recited in claim 11 and limitations of claim 1 from which claim 11 previously depended. Claim 11 is not word-for-word identical to prior claim 11 written in independent form. However, claim 11 as currently presented does include the limitations referenced in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons of Allowable Subject Matter. Therefore, claim 11 should be allowed. Claims 12-17 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 11 and therefore should also be allowed.

Claim 19, previously indicated to contain allowable subject matter has also been rewritten as an independent claim. Though claim 19 is not word-for-word identical to prior claim 19 written in independent form, it is believed to include all the limitations that led to the allowability of prior claim 19. Therefore, claim 19 should be allowed. Likewise, claims 20 and 21 that depend from claim 19 should also be allowed.

1. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) Based on Leonida

Claim 1 is rejected based on Leonida. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Though Leonida relates to method and apparatus for measuring duty cycle, Applicants respectfully disagree that Leonida shows or suggests making these measurements according to the claimed method. The claimed method recites providing repetitions of an interval of a signal for which the duty cycle is to be measured. A plurality of comparisons are made on these repetitions. Each comparison is made at a controlled time relative to the start of a repetition of the interval. Although the controlled time is varied, the comparisons are nonetheless coherent with the repetitions of the interval. In contrast, Leonida teaches that the sampling on the signal being measured is incoherent. (see Col. 1, lines 64-67). In fact, the reference expressly states that incoherent sampling is a requirement. (see Col. 3, lines 32-35).

Therefore, Leonida does not show the claimed method. Further, given the express teaching of Leonida that incoherent sampling is a requirement, it would not be obvious to modify the method or apparatus described in Leonida to do the opposite. But, that is just the modification required for Leonida to be used in a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Accordingly, Leonida does not teach or suggest a method of measuring duty cycle as recited in claim 1, and the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

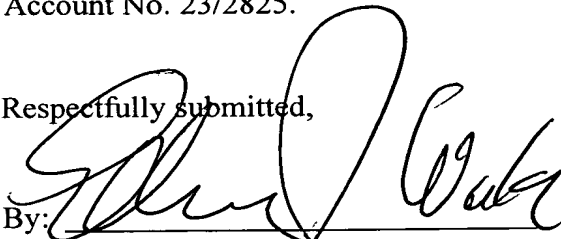
Claims 2-10, 18 and 22-24 depend from claim 1. For the reasons given above, those claims should also be allowed.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

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Respectfully submitted,



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